

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 14, 2005**

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on February 14, 2005 in Room 830, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Davalos called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Davalos  
Vice President Lesser  
Treasurer Duba  
Commissioner Gravely  
Commissioner Jernigan  
Commissioner Mummey  
Commissioner Rodriguez

Introduction of the audience followed.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Commissioner Mummey, seconded by Commissioner Jernigan, and duly carried, the minutes of January 24, 2005 were approved. Vice President Lesser abstained from voting.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Davalos' report is summarized as followed:

- President Davalos attended a Heart Awareness Conference with doctors from Cedar Sinai and Glendale Memorial Hospital.
- She announced that on February 18, 2005 the National Heart Day Health Fair will be held at the Hollywood Palladium.
- She also attended a conference, Communication for Leaders.
- Commissioners were asked to follow the distributed Trust Fund Guidelines when submitting to staff an agenda request for funds for a specific event.
- A Memorial Service will be held in honor of Commissioner Lila Morgan on February 26, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. at the Wee Kirk O' the Heather Chapel at Glendale Forest Lawn.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Duba reported on the expenditures for the month of January 2005. The beginning balance for January 2005 was \$21,775.00; expenditures were \$250.00; income was \$103.61; and the ending balance was \$21,628.61. The monthly spending allowance for February 2005 is \$4,325.72.

## **STAFF REPORT**

Staff reported the following:

- The Revlon Run/Walk for Women will be May 7, 2005 in Los Angeles and groups of women are encouraged to form teams. The website address is [www.revlonrunwalk.com](http://www.revlonrunwalk.com).
- The Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women is hosting the quarterly meeting of the Association of California Commissions for Women on March 11, 2005 at Los Angeles City Hall. A reception will follow the meeting hosted by LACSW. President Davalos and Vice President Lesser plan to attend.
- The new form, "Checklist for Agenda Requests" was reviewed to assist staff in expediting funding requests.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE AWARDS LUNCHEON COMMITTEE REGARDING THE ADJUSTMENT TO EVENT SCHEDULE AND ACTIVITIES**

President Davalos reported that two "Women of the Year" awardees are boycotting the Biltmore Millennium Hotel because of a contract dispute with a local union and will not attend the luncheon. The Committee then agreed to cancel the March 14<sup>th</sup> date prior to February 12<sup>th</sup> to avoid paying more than \$6250 in liquidation fees. President Davalos, Committee Chair, Commissioner Jernigan and Khanh Nguyen, Deputy Executive Officer, met with the Biltmore catering managers to negotiate the contract and to avoid paying the liquidation fees.

(Commissioner Perkins joined the meeting at 10:30 a.m.)

Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion, seconded by Vice President Lesser, to postpone the March 14, 2005 "Women of the Year" Awards Luncheon at the Biltmore and consider holding it in July 2005. Discussion ensued on staff contacting County Counsel for advice in hosting an awards presentation at a location other than a hotel. Also, staff is to determine if the Biltmore contract extends into the year 2006. Vice President Lesser requested tabling the motion and continuing the discussion after the presentation.

## **PRESENTATION ON COUNTY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

Victoria Pipkin, Chief Administrative Office, Director of Office Workplace Programs, stated that the County Ambassador Program is designed for County employees to play a key role in implementing the County's Strategic Plan. As a County Ambassador, employees are given the opportunity to promote awareness of County services, County facts and current County issues regarding how County services positively impact the daily lives of County residents. Ms. Pipkin distributed a pocket guide designed to

provide employees with easy access to information of County services, phone numbers and websites.

President Davalos thanked Ms. Pipkin for her informative presentation.

**RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE AWARDS LUNCHEON COMMITTEE REGARDING  
THE ADJUSTMENT TO EVENT SCHEDULE AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)**

On motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Jernigan, and duly carried, the Commission tabled the discussion of planning the event until the Commission hears from the Biltmore regarding the boycott and agreed to revisit the issue of hosting the event within 60 days. Commissioner Rodriguez opposed the motion.

On motion of Vice President Lesser, seconded by Commissioner Mummey, and unanimously carried, the Commission cancelled the March 14, 2005 date at the Biltmore.

On motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Duba, and unanimously carried, the Commission postponed the 2005 "Women of the Year" Awards Luncheon to a future date.

**PURCHASE TICKETS FOR GLENDALE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF  
WOMEN'S FIRST ANNUAL JEWEL OF GLENDALE AWARD LUNCHEON**

On motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Duba, and duly carried, the Commission purchased up to five tickets at \$35 per ticket to the Glendale Commission on the Status of Women's First Annual Jewel of Glendale Award Luncheon. Commissioner Mummey opposed the motion. President Davalos and Commissioners Rodriguez and Gravely are planning to attend.

**PURCHASE TICKETS TO CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER'S FOURTH ANNUAL  
WOMEN'S HEALTH CONFERENCE**

On motion of President Davalos, seconded by Vice President Lesser, and unanimously carried, the Commission purchased up to five tickets at \$35 per ticket to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center's Fourth Annual Women's Health Conference. Commissioner Creary plans to attend.

**PURCHASE TICKETS AND/OR JOURNAL AD FOR THE AQUATIC FOUNDATION OF METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL "SALUTE TO CHAMPIONS" LUNCHEON**

On motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Vice President Lesser, and duly carried, the Commission purchased one journal ad for \$250 for the Aquatic Foundation of Metropolitan Los Angeles 10<sup>th</sup> Annual "Salute to Champions" Luncheon. Commissioner Rodriguez opposed the motion.

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones joined the meeting at 11:30 a.m.)

**CONSIDER APPROVING REGISTRATION AND HOTEL EXPENSES FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE BLACK WOMEN, INC. 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL BLACK WOMEN'S NETWORKING BRUNCH**

On motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Gravely and duly carried, the Commission authorized the \$75 registration fee and hotel expense up to \$75 for a Commissioner to attend the Black Women, Inc. 10<sup>th</sup> Annual California Professional Women's Networking Brunch on March 5, 2005 in San Francisco by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: President Davalos, and Commissioners Gravely, Jernigan, Mummey and Perkins

Noes: Commissioner Rodriguez

Abstentions: Commissioners Becerra-Jones, Treasurer Duba and Vice President Lesser

Commissioner Perkins plans to attend. An ad hoc committee was formed to address the trust funding criteria that will include the Finance Committee and Commissioners Mummey and Rodriguez.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Health Committee:** There was no report.

**Domestic Violence Subcommittee:** Commissioner Rodriguez is currently working with staff on the letter that will survey County departmental domestic violence programs. Vice President Lesser requested that the Commissioners receive a copy of the letter.

**Legislative Committee:** Commissioner Jernigan announced that Assemblywomen Karen Bass will assist her in tracking legislation for women. The last date to introduce new bills to the state legislature is February 18, 2005. Governor Schwarzenegger is

planning on cutting additional funds from education and housing subsidies. She further noted that the Bush Administration Social Security Insurance (SSI) plan seriously impacts women.

**Education Subcommittee:** Commissioner Becerra-Jones spoke on the County Counsel opinion regarding ethnicity and the criteria to select scholarship recipients. Also, she suggested that the Commission support SB 1207 requiring public school counselors to counsel students.

**Media/Public Relations Committee:** Commissioner Perkins accepted the position as Chair of the Media/Public Relation Committee. She suggested several appointments of committee members to the Committee. She also made a recommendation for the appointment of the Vice Chair.

**Older Women's Issues Committee:** Commissioner Mummey reported that the Older Women's group is discussing sending letters regarding older women's issues such as SSI and housewives without SSI. The Committee will meet in two weeks.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Perkins attended an art gallery opening on 626 Sixth Street highlighting three artists: Cynthia Saint James, Charles Bibbs and Bernard Hoyes.

Commissioner Becerra-Jones announced that the SPA 7 event, "Reaching School Success" will be held on February 26, 2005 and will address gang violence prevention. Donations to raise funds at the event were requested. Commissioner Perkins offered to donate a few copies of her book, *Sisters at the Well*.

Vice President Lesser attended the Heart Ball honoring Dr. William Burke and others. While in Buenos Aries she witnessed women marching the street because their loved ones became missing during the last regime.

Commissioner Gravely reminded the Commission that the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Young African American Women's Conference is scheduled for February 26, 2005 at Pasadena City College.

Commissioner Mummey reported on the California State Teachers Retirement System, CalSTRS.

Commissioner Rodriguez plans to attend the Office of Women's Health Community Partner Program on February 15, 2005. She attended the Health Issues Committee Meeting at California Medical Center on January 27, 2005; the Boomsherst Hearing Lawsuit against the Ronald Reagan Building and a domestic violence shelter on February 1, 2005; the Mid-Wilshire Domestic Violence Collaborative on February 2, 2005; the Western Regional Health Symposium at USC Davidson Center on February 4, 2005; and the Domestic Violence Council & Shelter Meeting at the Police Academy on February 8, 2005.

### **MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA**

There were none.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### **COMMISSIONERS**

Karin Davalos, President  
Charlotte Lesser, Vice President  
Reiko Duba, Treasurer  
Yolanda Becerra-Jones  
Wadie Gravely  
Ruth Jernigan  
Janet Mummey, Esq.  
Barbara Perkins  
Olivia Rodriguez

### **EXCUSED**

Ruth Creary, PhD  
Bonnie Lewis

### **COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES**

Executive Office Staff: Khanh Nguyen, Steve Erickson, Nyla Jefferson, Gabriel Alexander.  
Victoria Pipkin, Chief Administrative Office, Director of Office of Workplace Programs.